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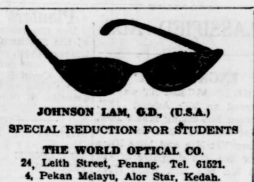
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Malaya Becomes Independent In A Blaze Of Light

BIRTH OF A NEW NATION

30,000 At Solemn Midnight Ceremony: Tunku Haired As 'Father Of Independence'

FIRST PRIME MINISTER END OF AN ERA

Britain's Long Range Missile

LONDON, Aug. 30.—The test site for Britain's inter-continental ballistic missile is being constructed near Hatfield, Hertfordshire, at the headquarters of the De Havilland Propeller Company, it was disclosed here.

Two 30-foot towers supporting a large steel bridge have been erected on the site.

It is understood that the missile which the Defence Minister Mr. Duncan Sandys described recently as more advanced than anything the Americans are building will have a range of more than 5,000 miles. It is expected to be powered by Rolls-Royce engines now being built and tested.

The actual firing of the missile is expected to take place in 1960 at the Woomera rocket range in South Australia. — Reuter.

Red China Will Recognise Malaya

HONGKONG, Aug. 30.—Communist China has decided to recognise the Federation of Malaya, Peking Radio announced today.

China's decision was announced in a message sent by Mr. Chou En-Lai, China's Prime Minister, to Malaya's Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, the Radio said. — Reuter.

BERLIN, Aug. 30.—East Germany led Norway by 45 points to 42 after the first day of a two-day men's international athletics match at Jena, East Germany, yesterday.

A crowd of 7,000 watched the match, according to the East German news agency, A.D.N.—Reuter.

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SINGAPORE — KUALA LUMPUR — PENANG — IPOH
KUCHING AND AT LONDON.

(From Our Staff Correspondent)
KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 30.—A new nation was born at midnight tonight when, at a solemn ceremony on the Selangor Padang, the Union Jack was furled and the Federation Flag was unfurled to the fading chimes from the Secretariat clock tower before a mammoth congregation.

A few minutes before 12 o'clock all lights were extinguished — and then the scene was brilliantly re-illuminated on the stroke of midnight, symbolising the creation of an Independent Federation of Malaya.

Thirty thousand people thronged the Selangor Padang to witness the Alliance Rally of 300 youths from the United Malays National Organisation, the Malaysian Chinese Association and the Malayan Indian Congress.

People of all communities were mixing freely, seeing the magnificent illuminations which turned Kuala Lumpur into one blaze of light.

12 DELEGATIONS
As the clock struck ten, representatives from the UMNO, MCA and MIC comprising 12 delegations took their positions allotted on marked spaces on the padang.

At five minutes to twelve the Chief Minister, escorted by 30 Alliance motor-cyclists and two police outriders, arrived at the Jalan Raja entrance to the padang. As he alighted from his car he was met by the Minister for Education, Dato Abdul Razak bin Hussein, and one representative of each organisation — the MCA and MIC.

On the arrival of the Chief Minister all the lights, including the road lights, were switched off.

On the first stroke of midnight the lights were switched on again and the Union Jack, which was flying, was furled to the music of "God Save the Queen." The Federation Flag was unfurled to the music of the Federation National Anthem.

TOUCHING SCENE
A very touching sight was when 12 Alliance youths carrying two trays walked to the flag poles. One tray contained the Federation Flag and the other was empty.

Seven times full-throated cheers of "Merdeka" came from the people when the Federation National Anthem was played. At this juncture the Guard of Honour gave

freedom to the crowd. "Let us be free from the menace of Communist terrorism which has terrorised this country for the last nine years so that the people of this country can be free to move wherever they choose unhindered, unafraid and undisturbed."

"With freedom there is much to do for us all. Freedom brings with it opportunities to all; to the needy new hope, to the sick and afflicted relief, to those distressed and in want, help. We shall build our social, economic and educational structures so that the new nation will rear its head, sturdy and proud, and the people happy and contented."

(Continued On Page 9)



Tunku Abdul Rahman, Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, which became independent at midnight yesterday.

'WE SHALL BE LEAVING A COUNTRY WE HAVE GROWN TO LOVE'

MacG's Farewell Broadcast

"For me this is a very sad broadcast, for tomorrow my wife and I will be leaving a country we have grown to love," said Sir Donald MacGillivray, last High Commissioner for the Federation of Malaya, in a farewell broadcast over Radio Malaya shortly before midnight last night.

"It is a dramatic moment in the lives of all of us; in a few minutes' time British rule and protection, the history of which reaches back over 170 years, will come to an end."

"As I speak to you tonight," said Sir Donald, "I seem to see myself standing at the end of a long picture gallery stretching back through decades of progress to the time of Francis Light in Penang and Stamford Raffles in Malacca."

"I see the faces of many men and women who came here to serve and who enjoyed every minute of their service, however long the hours or hard the road, for they found here a very wonderful country — and it is the people who make the country," he added.

Sir Donald continued: "Men and women have looked out from the past wondering with anxiety in their faces what sort of ending there would be to this era of British rule and now will be rejoicing with us that it should come in this happy way with the old friendships between Britain and Malaya stronger than ever before."

Bitter Gang Fight In Taipei

TAIPEI, Aug. 30.—More than 100 Chinese pedicab drivers rioted in downtown Taipei yesterday, wielding sticks and iron bars in a bitter gang fight.

Twelve persons, including one policeman, were injured in the riot between the drivers from Fukien and Shantung Provinces on the China mainland.

The riot apparently broke out after a dispute over a taxi group had the rights to certain taxi stands. Police rushed reinforcements to the area and arrested six of the rioters. — U.P.

IMMIGRATION FLOW CAUSING SERIOUS PROBLEM IN AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE, August 30.—Lack of balance between the sexes in Australia's post-war immigration flow had led to serious social and economic problems, a Roman Catholic pastoral statement on immigration said.

The statement titled "Australia's Bold Adventure" is signed by the Primate of Australia, Norman Cardinal Gillroy, and all 34 of Australia's Roman Catholic bishops and is published for "Social Justice Sunday," September 1.

But the Directors of Immigration were making efforts to correct it, the statement added.

The lack of balance between the sexes arose from the need for more workers to develop Australia's post-war industrial potential as quickly as possible, the statement said.

This led to a preference being given to single male adults, who soon gravely out-

Thousands Watch Union Jack Lowered

SOLEMN SILENCE AT HISTORIC CEREMONY

(By Our Staff Reporter)
Britishers in Penang turned up in force, and thousands of Malay, Chinese, Indian and Eurasian residents with their womenfolk were present too, to stand stock still in what could be described as a most solemn ceremony in a final tribute to British sovereignty over Penang, when the Union Jack was lowered from the 182-foot flagmast on Fort Cornwallis.

The Resident Commissioner, Mr. R. P. Bingham, attended by took up his position, facing seawards, looking up the flagmast, where the Union Jack stirred by the late evening breeze, fluttered gallantly.

The harbour lights were on, as too the beams of the site-painted lighthouse, and the sky was a serene blue, darkening with every minute as the sun set lower and lower below the horizon.

The Guard of Honour stood at attention, the crowd with them, so quiet and stiff one could hear the breeze sighing through the leaves of the surrounding trees.

Then it was five minutes to sunset, then three minutes, and as the "Salute Arms" was ordered, the signalman from the "Royalist" and the "Tobruk" pulled the cord to bring down the British flag.

RETREAT SOUNDED
Buglers J.G. McLeod and C. E. Day sounded "The Retreat" and then it was 7 p.m. and the flag came down to be folded up by the Yeoman of Signals, L. D. Glassey, commanding the Colour Party.

He then strode forward to hand the flag to Capt. T. F. Penny, Harbour Master, who in turn solemnly passed the Union Jack into the hands of Mr. Bingham, for safe keeping.

So the ceremony ended, and though no invitations were issued, thousands were present to pay their last respects to the Union Jack, on the eve of Merdeka.

Yemen Appeals To U.S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—The Yemen has called on the United States to use its good offices and ask Britain to stop bombing attacks against Yemen positions which it claims are on its side of the Aden border.

Mr. Assayed Ahmad Al Zabar, Yemen Charge d'Affaires, made the request in a written memorandum which he presented to Mr. Lampton Berry, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, at the State Department. — Reuter.

Red Guns Shell Quemo

TAIPEI, Aug. 30.—Chinese Communist guns last night fired 49 shells at Nationalist-held Quemo island, the Nationalist Defence Ministry announced.

It said the bombardment lasted from 2230 to 2345 hours but inflicted no damage. — Reuter.

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MERDEKA HOLIDAY

In celebration of Independence there will be no issue of the "Straits Echo & Times of Malaya" on Monday, Sept. 2.

Publication will be resumed on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Villagers Beat 22 Lepers To Death

PUSAN, Aug. 30.—Korean police today said 22 lepers have died as a result of beatings by a mob of stick-wielding villagers in P'yongdo Island near here.

According to police reports, three others were missing, 59 were seriously wounded and nine others slightly injured. Two of the assailants were injured slightly, police said.

The lepers were attacked on Wednesday by the angry mob armed with sticks and shovels when they attempted to build homes on the island about 35 miles west of here.

Police have arrested six of the assailants who made mass attack to drive the lepers out of town.

The lepers were building homes in the island to move in from Sachonno, a town across the channel.—U.P.

U.S. Explodes A-Device

ATOMIC TEST SITE, Nevada, Aug. 30.—Scientists detonated an atomic device 750 feet above the Nevada Desert today in what was termed a "pure test" for scientific purposes.

It flashed across the sky at 12.40 p.m. GMT with an orange-ink fireball which lasted for only a half-dozen seconds. — Reuter.

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